



American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators

June 1, 2004

Docket Management System
U.S. Department of Transportation
Room Plaza 401
400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590-0001

Re: Docket No. NHTSA-04-17326-7

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing in response to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's March 31, 2004, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on procedures for participating in and receiving data from the National Driver Register Problem Driver Pointer System (PDPS). The American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA) is grateful for the opportunity to provide comments on the proposals and stands ready to assist the agency in evaluating the merits of any such program.

As you know, the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA) has played an integral role in the development, deployment, and monitoring of the commercial driver license (CDL) and motor carrier safety programs. AAMVA supports the goals of MCSIA and is committed to working with NHTSA and FMCSA to improve commercial motor vehicle safety on our nation's highways.

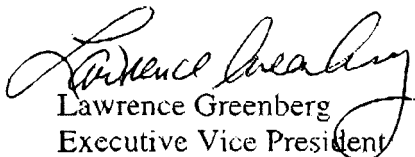
The following questions are offered by AAMVA in response to the proposed rule:

- Will PDPS adopt any messages added to CDLIS history request transactions so CDLIS and PDPS both return the same information? AAMVA is considering a new CDLIS message being returned with history requests that would link a withdrawal with its underlying conviction(s).
- On pages 16854-16855, the proposed rule states that jurisdictions are going to have to "recertify" themselves. Besides testing the changes made to PDPS due to MCSIA, are jurisdictions going to have to complete a full structured test as they did when they first came on board PDPS?

- On pages 16855 and 16857-16858, amending 49 CFR 1327.5, the NPRM states that pointers will only need to be added for reasons meeting the federal regulations, or those ACD codes listed in Appendix A. If NHTSA learns that a pointer was added to PDPS for an ACD code not listed in Appendix A, will the agency ask that state of record to remove the pointer? If yes then:
 - Will jurisdictions be required to do a clean file, either as part of the recertification process, or just part of implementing the changes?
- After a jurisdiction has been recertified, and has already implemented the MCSIA changes, how will the NHTSA make sure jurisdictions are adding pointers for only the required legal reasons and specific ACD codes allowed?
- Did NHTSA want to add any data elements to the pointer for the state of record to include why the pointer was added to PDPS?
- It appears there is a conflict between Appendix I and II. Some ACD codes were listed as withdrawals, but not convictions. For example, the ACD M09 is included in Appendix A Part I as a withdrawal, but there is no corresponding M09 conviction in Part II. NHTSA should reconcile the disparities between the two appendices before publishing the final rule.

The Association stands ready to work with NHTSA to find workable solutions to these issues before implementation of a final rule. The Association looks forward to continuing its work with NHTSA to improve driver and vehicle safety on our nation's roadways. If you have any questions about our comments, please do not hesitate to contact Tom Wolfsohn, AAMVA's Vice President of Government Affairs, or Randy Holleger, AAMVA's Director of Driver Systems, at (703) 522-4200. Thank you again for the opportunity to provide comments on this important proposal.

Sincerely,


 Lawrence Greenberg
 Executive Vice President